Grievances of Farm Radio Officers

182. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minisetr of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was any representation from Farm Radio Officers regarding their grievances in promotion; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what steps have been taken to redress the same?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Farm Radio Officers have been representing, from time to time, regarding their promotion to the higher grades in the Programme Cadre. In view of the limited promotion prospects available to Farm Radio Officers, a provision has been made in the proposed Indian Broadcasting (Programme) Service for equating the Farm Radio Officers with Programme Executives so that they become eligible for promtion to higher level posts in the Programme Cadre. However, the proposal for creation of the Indian Broadcasting (Programme) Service is presently under review in the context of the decision to convert All India Radio and Doordarshan into an autonomous Corporation.

Review of foreign policy with East European countries

183. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review its foreign policy with the East European countries in view of the recent fast developing changes in those countries: and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) Government have been closely studying the developments in Eastern European countries and their implications for India and for the international, political, economic and strategic situation. A meeting of Heads of Missions accredited to these countries was recently convened by me in Belgrade. While our policy to these countries continues to be based on the principles of friendship and mutual benefit, we are undertaking steps to re-shape our responses to the new politico-economic order in these countries. These principles continue to remain valid.

Development of Kakinada Port into a major port

184. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI:

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state what are the details of the proposals for the development of Kakinada port in Andhra Pradesh into a major port and by when these proposals are likely to be finalised alongwith the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): Kakinada Port is proposed to be developed into a deep water port by the Government of Andhra Pradesh with the assistance of the Asian Development Bank at an estimated cost of Rs. 133.58 crores. The administrative sanction for this has been issued by the State Government on 23rd January, 1990.

The main works contemplated by the State Government under this project are:

(i) Construction of 3 deep water berths, extension of the Breakwater